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1	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK					
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3	IN RE: TERRORIST ATTACKS ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2001					
4		, 	x	03 MDL 1570 (GBD)(FM)		
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6 7				New York, N.Y. February 19, 2014 11:25 a.m.		
8	Befo	ore:				
9		HON. FRANK MAAS,				
10				U.S. Magistrate Judge		
11		APPEARANCES				
12 13		KREINDLER & KREINDLER Attorneys for Ashton Plaintiffs BY: ANDREW J. MALONEY				
14 15		MOTLEY RICE Attorneys for Burnett Plaintiffs BY: ROBERT T. HAEFELE				
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1	APPEARANCES (Continued)
2	BERNABEI & WACHTEL
3	Attorneys for Defendant AHIF BY: ALAN R. KABAT (via telephone)
4	CLIFFORD CHANCE Attorneys for Defendant Dubai Islamic Bank
5	BY: RONI E. BERGOFFEN
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	OMAR MOHAMMEDI Attorney for Defendants WAMY and WAMY International and GOETZ & ECKLAND Attorneys for Defendants WAMY and WAMY International BY: FREDERICK GOETZ  LEWIS BAACH Attorneys for Defendants IIRO MWL BY: ERIC LEWIS WALEED NASSAR AISHA HENRY (via telephone)  DOAR, RIECK, KALEY & MACK Attorneys for Defendant Yassin Abdullah Kadi BY: AMY ROTHSTEIN PETER SALERNO
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Conference E2jntera 1 (In open court) (Case called) 2 3 MR. KABAT: Good morning, your Honor. Frederick Alan 4 Kabat of the law firm of Bernabei & Wachtel. I represent 5 (unintelligible). 6 THE COURT: Good morning. 7 MS. HENRY: Good morning, your Honor, this is Aisha Henry, with Lewis Baach, representing Muslim World League and 8 9 International Islamic Relief Organization. 10 THE COURT: As of about 20 minutes ago, you have been 11 admitted pro hac vice. 12 MS. HENRY: Thank you, your Honor. 13 I think that is it on the phone. 14 THE COURT: So we gathered. 15 MR. CARTER: Good morning, your Honor. Sean Carter Cozen & O'Connor on behalf of the plaintiffs. 16 17 MR. TARBUTTON: Good morning, your Honor. Scott Tarbutton of Cozen & O'Connor. 18 MR. HAEFELE: Good morning, your Honor. 19 20 Haefele, Motley Rice, also for the plaintiffs. 21 MR. GOLDMAN: Good morning, your Honor. Jerry

Goldman, Anderson Kill for the plaintiffs.

MR. MALONEY: Good morning, your Honor. Andrew Maloney Kreindler & Kreindler for the Ashton plaintiffs.

THE COURT:

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MS. BERGOFFEN: Good morning, your Honor. Roni Bergoffen with Clifford chance on behalf of the Dubai Islamic Bank. MS. ROTHSTEIN: Good morning, your Honor. Rothstein, Salerno & Rothstein, for Yassim Abdullah Kadi. THE COURT: Good morning. MR. SALERNO: Good morning, your Honor. Peter Salerno of Salerno & Rothstein for Yassim Abdullah Kadi. THE COURT: All right. MR. LEWIS: Good morning, your Honor. Eric Lewis of Lewis Baach, for Muslim World League and International Islamic Relief Organization. MR. MOHAMMEDI: Good morning, your Honor. Omar Mohammedi on behalf of WAMY and WAMY International. MR. GOETZ: Also, your Honor, Frederick Goetz for WAMY. THE COURT: I know we have the motion related to WAMY. I have it here. Whatever counsel want to deal with first? Schedule or the application relating to WAMY? MR. CARTER: Your Honor, we don't have a preference. THE COURT: OK. Why don't we talk about schedule first. MR. CARTER: Sure, your Honor. We had an opportunity

to confer with some of the defense counsel over the course of

the last week. In particular, we spoke with Mr. Lewis on behalf of Muslim World League and IRO. We traded some e-mails with Ms. Rothstein about defendant al-Kadi's productions, and we understand that those defendants are still in the process of collecting documents and are supportive of the view that we should set a uniform June 30 deadline for productions for all parties.

We are in agreement with that. As we have expressed before, we think there are significant concerns about staggering this, not only because we think documents will be forthcoming that relate to other defendants and would be relevant, but also because of the degree to which staggered schedules might distract sort of our attention in six different directions simultaneously. So we are of the view that the June 30 deadline should apply uniformly to all parties.

THE COURT: But as to the personal jurisdiction defendants, presumably it would just be that which relates to that topic.

MR. CARTER: It would be just the jurisdictional discovery we probably have disputes about, the scope of that discovery. We had a meet and confer this week as well with counsel for Della Avco. I think there is likely to be an application on that front as well.

Coincidentally, your Honor, a June 30 deadline would roughly coincide with the date on which the Supreme Court will

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hold a conference determining whether it takes the pending 1 cert. petition relating to the defendants whose dismissals were 2 3 affirmed by the Second Circuit and when the Supreme Court is 4 also likely to decide the petition that we understand the 5 Kingdom will be filing sometime in the next month. So we will 6 have some sense of where the broader litigation is headed at 7 that point as well. 8 THE COURT: Let me hear from whoever opposes that 9

date.

MS. BERGOFFEN: Your Honor, I don't think there is any opposition at this point.

THE COURT: That makes it easy for me. June 30 it is, a uniform date.

So that obviates the discussion about the number of pages of documents to be produced. Does that leave anything other than the WAMY application for us to discuss.

MR. CARTER: Your Honor, plaintiffs had requested that your Honor extend the December 26 order so that it would be mutual and apply to all parties.

THE COURT: Insofar as FOIA?

MR. CARTER: Insofar as FOIA, as well as this issue as to whether and how the parties should go about certifying whether they have withheld documents based on objections asserted in their discovery responses. We are prepared to submit a certification to that fact to WAMY, and actually

anticipated doing it before the hearing, but the defendants then expressed in their response that there were issues they wanted to discuss on that point with the Court so we thought it

best to wait until we understood what the playing field was.

MR. MOHAMMEDI: Your Honor, I think the issue with WAMY has nothing to do with certification. When we appeared last time on the motion to compel we believed that we made the argument that there was not certification. We just asked them if they have documents, or not specific requests.

THE COURT: Well, that's the certification that they were being subjected to in paragraph 2 of the December 26 order, which says, Plaintiffs shall update their written responses to WAMY's document requests by stating whether any responsive documents have been withheld on the basis of their objections to the requests, that is what you were referring to.

MR. CARTER: That's what we were referring to, your Honor. We think if we are going to have this requirement relative to WAMY, it should be a universal requirement for all parties as to all of the responses that have been provided.

THE COURT: Is there any objection to that?

MR. MOHAMMEDI: We do believe there was a motion to compel to related to specific requests. It was not a general certification that WAMY applied for the motion to compel. I think the other issue is the certification saying that we don't have any documents, that is general. We are just relating some

of the requests that we made.

I assume is pretty voluminous.

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MR. CARTER: So, the Treasury had indicated its

THE COURT: I think, Mr. Carter, you have broadened

the request. I thought the concern was FOIA productions rather

than every response to every request, which at this late stage

MR. CARTER: Right, your Honor. I think our request

in the letter applied to both. They are distinct issues.

regard to the FOIA, we have some concern that defendants have

adopted an interpretation of your Honor's prior FOIA decisions

as in some way alleviating them of the burden to produce

FOIA-related correspondence to agencies in their possession.

To that point, your Honor, we received a FedEx from the

Treasury Department on February 18 which included several

pieces of correspondence between the Treasury Department and

Clifford Chance on behalf of Dubai Islamic Bank relative to the

FOIA requests that we submitted to Treasury pertaining to DIB.

Those letters generally offer objections to Treasury's

proposed disclosure of documents to us. The materials we have

seen refer to a whole broader set of correspondence between

counsel for DIB and the Treasury Department going back to 2012,

which has elongated the process of us getting responses from

Treasury apparently by perhaps two years.

THE COURT: Say that again.

intention to produce documents to us as early as 2012, and

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there has then since that time been and extended back and forth between counsel for Dubai Islamic Bank and the Treasury

Department about what materials should be disclosed.

In most cases it appears that Treasury has overruled DIB's objections and is preparing to make production of the materials. But the back and forth has extended for a lengthy period of time. More fundamentally, we just never received these documents from Dubai Islamic Bank in discovery, and they are clearly FOIA related correspondence.

MS. BERGOFFEN: Your Honor, if I may?
THE COURT: Yes.

MS. BERGOFFEN: With regard to the documents
Mr. Carter is speaking of, these documents are wholly
irrelevant and not covered within the scope of Rule 26 in this
case.

If I might step back and give you a little bit more detail on that, your prior rulings addressed whether or not documents and correspondence with FOIA can be produced under an attorney-client privilege or work product protection. The Dubai Islamic Bank has not withheld any of the documents on the basis of either of these privilege arguments.

Rather, these documents are well outside the scope of Rule 26 for two reasons:

First of all, they deal with transactions that have absolutely nothing whatsoever to do with al-Qaeda 9/11 or any

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other issue in this case.

More importantly, these transactions that were at issue that the correspondence with the OFAC office dealt with were from a time period between 2006 and 2011, I believe, which is five to ten years after the attacks of 9/11.

Your Honor, to the extent that there was any correspondence between DIB and OFAC that were responsive to a request related to 9/11, we would agree that your order would encompass those, and we have not identified any such documents.

I am happy to go back and look again just to confirm. To the extent that any such documents existed, we would, of course, produce them. The documents that Mr. Carter apparently already has made clear that the documents — that correspondence with OFAC that he is seeking pertains only to documents that are well outside the scope of Rule 26.

THE COURT: Well, my view, and I thought I said it in December although it didn't find its way to the order, was that the ruling was reciprocal, and I expected everybody to produce responsive FOIA material with no claims of privilege or work product.

Obviously, if documents are not within the scope of the request, they need not be produced. And if they are outside the time period, again they should be produced. If I didn't make it clear last time I will make it clear today and in a follow-up order that my rulings with respect to FOIA apply

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reciprocally to both sides, and that with respect to FOIA each side should confirm or each party should confirm for its adversaries that it has not withheld any FOIA documents.

There were so many requests floating around that I think to just say generically everybody must respond request by request as to whether any documents have been withheld on the basis of objections is not a ruling I am prepared to make requiring that.

MR. CARTER: Your Honor?

THE COURT: In specific instances, if need be, I am glad to address that.

MR. CARTER: Your Honor, one issue with regard to the relevancy objections that counsel for DIB just made. The defendants came forward and advocated to the Court that all of plaintiffs' FOIA-related correspondence with the agencies were relevant to the discovery process and that production should be compelled. We had held back some of those on the basis of an assertion of privilege. In the context of advocating our position on that point we noted that the correspondence at issue bore essentially no relevance to the case and that really it was only the meat of the substantive productions by the agencies that mattered.

The defendants countered that and said they were entitled to the correspondence. If they are entitled to our FOIA requests and our correspondence with the agencies, it is

our view that any correspondence they have submitted to the agencies pertaining to our requests are by definition also relevant. They have sort of interjected the relevance of these materials into the case themselves, but then when it comes to their correspondence they are pulling back from that position.

MS. BERGOFFEN: Respectfully, your Honor, I would disagree. There is a large distinction with regard to plaintiffs' correspondence. They have placed them on a privilege log, which makes it an admission by plaintiff that those particular documents were relevant.

By contrast, your Honor, under the FOIA, plaintiffs are not bound by Rule 26. They are allowed to ask the government for anything they want, whether it has to do with this case or not.

To the extent we need to respond, within our rights and under any exemptions within the FOIA, to requests that are outside of Rule 26, that simply has nothing to do with this case. I don't know why plaintiff sought documents from OFAC or any other agency that clearly are well beyond the scope of this case, but that is something they chose to do.

But respectfully, the fact that plaintiffs chose to seek documents well outside the scope of discovery requirements under Rule 26 does not broaden the obligation of my clients to simply produce things outside of the scope.

THE COURT: I am going to adhere to my ruling. In any

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event, we are sort of at the periphery of what is potentially relevant. FOIA is an available option, as counsel said, where relevance any type of rulings that Judge Daniels or I have made are not a concern. So I am not going to expand my ruling.

MR. CARTER: Thank you, your Honor.

MS. BERGOFFEN: Thank you, your Honor.

MR. GOETZ: Your Honor, may I get clarification on your ruling as to paragraph 2 of your December 26 order. I am glad Mr. Carter brought it up. We did reach out to plaintiffs on February 7 asking that we have this very dialogue that we are having in court. Unfortunately, we didn't get any response to that.

But, to be clear, what WAMY was asking for when we brought the motion, there are about a dozen requests for production to which we basically got no response. There were a bunch of objections not telling us one way or another whether they had documents or not. That's why we brought the motion. That is the relief that I understood the Court gave us.

So the clarification I am seeking is that I would ask the Court to continue the order as I understood it, which is to those requests for production of documents that the plaintiffs have not indicated one way or another whether or not they have responsive documents they just follow the Court's order and indicate whether any responsive documents have been withheld on the basis of their objections.

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considerable frustration that we are here today seeking court intervention relative to an issue that was resolved more than

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two years ago following a very lengthy meet-and-confer process between plaintiffs' counsel and counsel for WAMY.

The letter application doesn't go into that much detail on this issue, but we initially raised our concerns about WAMY's objection to production of documents in the physical possession of its branch offices way back in May of 2011 when we had a lengthy meet and confer by telephone.

After that we followed up with an e-mail explaining our legal theory for asserting that WAMY did, in fact, have possession, custody, or control of documents in the physical custody of its branch offices.

From that time forward there were nearly 10 pieces of correspondence exchanged back and forth. We, the plaintiffs, undertook independent investigative efforts to aggregate information from the public domain that supported our factual view that WAMY did, in fact, supervise its offices very closely and had custody and control over the documents.

All of that ultimately led to an agreement that was formalized in a letter to the Court explaining that WAMY was withdrawing that objection and acknowledging that it did, in fact, have custody and control over the documents in all of its branch offices.

Given that agreement, we don't really feel that we should be subject to the burden of being here today to relitigate that issue with regard to the Canadian branch. We

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feel simply that WAMY should be ordered to adhere to the agreement and its representation to the Court and make production of the documents through whatever means are necessary to achieve that result.

THE COURT: There are two layers, if you will, to this, one of which is documents related to WAMY Canada that are in the possession of the parent WAMY Saudi Arabia. And then there's the nettlesome issue of documents that WAMY Canada may have that have not yet been shared with WAMY.

MR. CARTER: That is correct, your Honor.

Based on what we see in the limited production that we have from WAMY Saudi Arabia and WAMY International, the U.S. branch of WAMY, there was a relatively fulsome relationship between the headquarters, the U.S. branch, and the Canadian branch over a period of many years.

While we have some documents including payments of WAMY Canada's budget, we don't have nearly the spectrum of information that we would expect to have from the headquarters pertaining to the Canadian branch and don't feel that that search has been undertaken.

WAMY in its current opposition expresses the view that those documents may not exist because WAMY Canada was long sorts of this rogue branch that didn't really cooperate. But that representation doesn't really square, your Honor, with, first of all, the payment of its budget on a regular basis

during relevant periods, the precise periods that are relevant to this litigation, sort of cordial correspondence that we saw back and forth. It doesn't square with WAMY's representation affirmatively that it had possession over those documents during the course of this litigation.

So at the end of the day we think relatively clearly that there is just simply not the production of the stuff in the headquarters branch pertaining to WAMY Canada. We are particularly concerned about it, your Honor, because the documents in question sort of go to the heart of the case here.

You are dealing with WAMY's relationship with designated terrorist entities, including Benevolence International.

You are also dealing with the circumstance in which WAMY's director secretary-general in Saudi Arabia filed an affidavit in these court proceedings denying the existence of any such relationship. So now we see a pattern in which the CRA investigation brings to light the existence of this relationship, shared joint bank accounts --

THE COURT: Shared offices I gather also.

MR. CARTER: Shared offices, shared leadership.

Obviously it seems that the documents in the possession of the headquarter organization would shed some light on the headquarter's knowledge of those relationships and whether or not the affidavit was completely accurate.

With regard to the branch, your Honor, all we would say is there was a lengthy period of time during this litigation during which discovery was ongoing. WAMY had an obligation to secure responsive documents. It had an opportunity to obtain the responsive documents from WAMY Canada for a lengthy period. Even between the time that we reached the agreement on WAMY's withdrawal of the objection to its custody and control over the documents in the branch office, you have at least five months before WAMY Canada allegedly goes rogue and stops cooperating. So these documents already should have been secured and provided to the plaintiffs before any of this came to pass.

But in the end, it's sort of all too convenient that the Canadian office has suddenly become intransigent and unwilling to cooperate. From the plaintiffs' perspective it seems clear that WAMY would have relief if that were in fact occurring.

The Canadian branch is trading on WAMY's name. It continues to use WAMY's name for its business. WAMY could clearly step in, in Canadian court proceedings if necessary, to bring that rogue chapter back under control and obtain its documents as necessary to fulfill its obligations in this legal proceeding.

THE COURT: Insofar as WAMY Saudi Arabia didn't take steps prior to the Canadian branch going rogue to secure the

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documents, isn't that a little like Al-Haramain USA, which I said there was no showing that it could have been anticipated that the Saudi government basically would lock them out of the documents.

MR. CARTER: It is a little bit different, your Honor, because the Saudi government is taking a regulatory step, which is far different from a relationship where you have the legal capacity to step in and --

THE COURT: Yes. I am not talking about the capacity to unwind it or trying to ameliorate it. I'm really talking about it in terms of it potentially not being something that could have been anticipated or should have been anticipated.

MR. CARTER: It is hard to say, your Honor, because on the one hand WAMY says that there is a history of a lack of cooperation with this office. If that is in fact the case, then clearly it should have been taking more robust steps to deal with that particular office as a problem child.

On the other hand, it says that this became a sudden problem after the CRA investigation. So there is sort of a conflict in WAMY's own arguments that makes it difficult. If you do buy their view that it was always a problem child and failed to provide reporting as required, there clearly was some reason to anticipate that it was a problem and more robust steps should have been taken.

> THE COURT: Thank you.

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MR. MOHAMMEDI: Can I go to the podium, your Honor? THE COURT: Yes, sure.

MR. MOHAMMEDI: Thank you. I think that I would like to mention about WAMY and WAMY Canada, we are not denying that there was cooperation between WAMY and WAMY Canada. I do not want the plaintiff to paint that as if there was a roque relationship from the beginning. There was a relationship. Ιt was a good relationship.

THE COURT: But during that time wasn't WAMY Canada providing all sorts of material to the parent? I know technically you explained it may not be a parent/subsidiary relationship, but wasn't WAMY Canada, in exchange for funding providing reams of information?

MR. MOHAMMEDI: Right.

Your Honor, I think if the plaintiffs review the documents we have produced to date, the way they are speaking is as we have not produced any documents. As a matter of fact, they conceded many of the arguments they made were provided from those documents. Those documents specifically describe the relationship between WAMY and WAMY Canada. WAMY Canada --WAMY was actually not even involved directly with WAMY.

THE COURT: I'm sorry. I didn't hear.

MR. MOHAMMEDI: It was not directly involved with It was WAMY USA that was dealing with WAMY Canada. WAMY. was almost like a subchapter of WAMY USA.

At that point WAMY was not dealing with them directly except for a few projects that WAMY was undertaking in Canada and asking WAMY to make sure that the source of the people were asking for funds are legitimate and they would send it to Canada.

However, at that time, 2004 I believe, that's when WAMY USA was not active anymore. And we produced a lot of documents --

THE COURT: Hang on one second.

Let me ask counsel who are on the phone to put their microphones on mute because I think we are hearing some sounds emanating from your end.

Go on.

MR. MOHAMMEDI: So plaintiff should have the documents showing the budget we are talking about. Actually, the budget was not going to WAMY Canada directly. It was going to WAMY USA and saying to WAMY USA, share some of the budget with WAMY Canada, which was very minimal. It was like \$20,000 a year. That's what they were doing.

So WAMY was relying on WAMY USA for everything that was done. At some point where WAMY USA was not active. As a matter of fact, the CRA report states specifically that WAMY Canada was not operating well before 2005, at that time. But WAMY Saudi Arabia had documents relating to WAMY Canada in their offices, which were produced. It showed a lot of

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communication. Actually, it showed many things. I give you, your Honor, a list of those documents that show what we had here: Balance sheet between 1999 and 2001, there was loss/profit, there was transfer of funds plaintiffs are referring to, audit statements, CRA tax returns, there was a list of donors, WAMY internal financial statements, internal general ledger, and bank statements.

All of these were produced to plaintiffs and they have them. They have them in Arabic, but they do have them. So to say that WAMY did not have any documents and did not try to inquire about WAMY Canada. It was inquiring. Actually, there was a relationship where they said we need some of the reports of what you are doing in Canada. That was through WAMY USA.

As a matter of fact, WAMY USA stopped sending funds, which were very minimal, \$6,000 in six months, because they were not receiving funds from Khatib.

THE COURT: They were not receiving?

MR. MOHAMMEDI: I mean, we are not receiving reports from Khatib. So that is they were doing. So that's when the relationship stopped.

They have those documents. Al-Jirad came on board and he was complying, and they have all the documents showing what they have been doing, WAMY Canada. They were sending the funds based on what they were receiving. So to say that WAMY did not have any funds or they did not try to check if WAMY Canada was

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doing anything wrong or they were doing something right, they had that, and that is what we produced to them.

The question that became clear to us, it was WAMY after the CRA report when -- and we do believe most of the documents were produced. Most of them are within the CRA possession, which we got an authorization for plaintiff to receive and see what we are talking about.

I don't even know what plaintiffs are trying to do We produced documents. We got the authorization from here. the CRA. We did everything we could to get that.

As far as the documents relating to, that were in the possession of CRA, we were able to go to Saudi Arabia and find out what's happened. The information we got is that as a matter of fact it was one of the directors of WAMY Canada who provided all documents to CRA. That's what they did. And from there they didn't have any documents.

So for some reason, I don't know what he did, but it seems he gave me many duplicates of what they provided. And we produced those. We went in June or July of 2012, in August we produced all those documents and they have them.

THE COURT: Are you saying -- I thought I may have heard you say it, but I want to be clear on whether you did or didn't say it. That WAMY Canada turned over all its documents to CRA?

MR. MOHAMMEDI: It seems like that is what they did,

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yes.

THE COURT: Such that it no longer has original documents?

MR. MOHAMMEDI: Yeah. We don't have any -- from our knowledge, we don't even know if they have them. The record shows that we have been trying so hard with the lawyers. The lawyers are taking the position that WAMY Canada is a separate organization. They don't have the obligation to give us those documents.

The lawyers might have those documents, and we are trying to get those documents from the lawyers. We are really trying to get those documents from the lawyers. As we speak now, as we speak, we have been contacting the lawyers.

Mr. Carter mentioned that we have not taken any action. First of all, we cannot take action except for the name. But not to get the documents that they have for using WAMY name, and that is what we are working on now.

There are many, many things going on behind the scenes. We cannot come to this Court and say what we are doing between us and our clients in trying to fix whatever was done as far as the documents are concerned. But I think the majority is being fixed by having the CRA sending all those documents, that they have the authorization, we get the authorization now, it's done, and they can send them to us.

The relationship when you start -- it just shows it

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was not a direct relationship between WAMY and WAMY Canada. As a matter of fact, there were communications where WAMY Canada would contact WAMY Saudi Arabia for funds and we want to deal directly with them and tell them no you need to go through WAMY USA, and they have those documents.

THE COURT: But WAMY USA is within the control of WAMY Saudi Arabia, correct? Why do they need to go to WAMY USA independently. I presume WAMY USA is a nonparty.

MR. CARTER: No, they are a defendant as well, your Honor, to whom we have served discovery requests. So I am not really sure that this conversation about whether WAMY Canada was under the direction of WAMY International or WAMY Saudi Arabia matters at all.

MR. MOHAMMEDI: It does matter, your Honor.

THE COURT: Who represents WAMY USA?

MR. MOHAMMEDI: We do.

THE COURT: OK. So it seems like we are exalting form over substance. If there were documents that relate to the funding of WAMY Canada, for example, that were requested by the plaintiffs and they reside with WAMY USA as the direct overseer of WAMY Canada rather than with WAMY Saudi Arabia, it seems to me those should have been produced a long time ago.

MR. MOHAMMEDI: But they have been produced, your Honor.

THE COURT: OK.

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MR. MOHAMMEDI: They have been produced. We produced everything we have relating to WAMY USA to plaintiffs a long time ago. That included WAMY Canada documents.

Your Honor, I would like to address some of the issues that were in the reply motion we didn't have a chance to address.

THE COURT: OK.

MR. MOHAMMEDI: One of them, I can address it briefly, conveniently the plaintiffs they use the Khatib example when he was dismissed because from the documents that they have Al-Khatib apparently happened to represent many organizations, and WAMY was not happy with it at that time. So they were wishing him luck, and wishing him luck to cooperate with the Al-Jirad. That was through WAMY USA. I think that was, they said there was a good relationship. There was a good relationship, but Al-Khatib was not doing a great job, and that's why he was not executive director afterwards. So that's one issue. There is a fact that is very clear.

THE COURT: Sorry?

MR. MOHAMMEDI: There is a fact that is very clear now. It is that WAMY Canada is being hostile to WAMY. We cannot deny that. We presented documents showing that. Our communication with the lawyers that we tried to hire to actually to challenge the CRA report, plaintiffs claimed there were drafts. Yes, there were drafts but we could not find them

because WAMY did not have standing to find them because the WAMY Canada officers did not want to sign the retainer to file those documents.

So we tried everything we could. At the end -- as a matter of fact, it was not because of just lately that we worked with trying to get the authorization, as the plaintiff claims to get these things. We have been working diligently for over a year or two years trying to get that. And finally we got it. It was not as easy the way the plaintiffs claims. It was not easy. Obviously the evidence that we show explains exactly the hostile --

THE COURT: You are talking about Dr. Taher's authorization?

MR. MOHAMMEDI: Yes. Dealing with his lawyer, and then we hired the lawyer, and the lawyer specifically stated to us they are not willing to share, to sign the retainer to challenge the CRA report because they are not willing to give you even the documents that are within the CRA report.

That was not a fabricated fact, which as officers of the Court we find it very offensive that plaintiffs think we fabricated facts. Those are not fabricated facts. Those are due diligence by defense attorneys trying to get those documents.

They also make a statement about Dr. Wohaibi, and I am going to leave my cocounsel to address that.

They also made the statement about the CRA report showing that WAMY Canada is not a separate organization, was not a separate organization by making the statement about Dr. Wohaibi going on newspapers and saying that. You know what, it is a newspaper article. But what we do have. We have according to the CRA report January 2011, Amen advised CRA WAMY might change its name and operation. That was via teleconference. It is in the CRA report. Also a letter to WAMY Canada from the CRA report in August 23, 2011 — and WAMY was never aware of — stating that we have an audit for you.

Afterwards there was notification of an intention to revoke. WAMY was never aware of the revocation, which occurred on February 11, 2012. WAMY was also never aware of until it became public. There was no meeting whatsoever between WAMY officials on the CRA report.

Plaintiff, they want us to say there was. We just say there was not documents showing anything. There was nothing.

THE COURT: So that, to be clear, WAMY Saudi Arabia or WAMY US had no inkling that there was a CRA investigation until the report came out?

MR. MOHAMMEDI: Yes, your Honor. They had no knowledge whatsoever. Obviously plaintiffs are claiming and saying that there are documents. They are forcing — they are harassing us to get documents we don't have and documents that do not exist. In the meantime they are not even telling us if

documents they have exist or do not exist.

There was no communication whatsoever as far as the CRA report until we know, our office knew about it and we communicated with our clients, and that's what we have tried to do with the lawyers in Canada.

We did undertake a good-faith effort. Plaintiffs are claiming we did not. I think the record shows what we have done so far, as far as going even to Saudi Arabia and trying to meet with the former directors of WAMY Canada, which we believe they were helpful. They gave us documents. They explained to us what happened, they gave us the documents, and we produced that to plaintiffs.

We just want to let this Court know that we don't have custody and control of WAMY Canada documents if they do exist.

If they don't -- they might not even exist documents except for what is produced and what the CRA has, but we do not have the practical means of getting those documents.

They also claim --

THE COURT: Before you go on, there were statements made to this Court by WAMY, I guess WAMY Saudi Arabia, saying that you had control of the documents at all of the branches.

And yet, as Mr. Carter said, the current position is that WAMY Canada was a bit of a rogue organization even sometime ago.

How do you square those two? You have an admission by

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WAMY Saudi Arabia that it has control over the branches, including presumably or maybe just specifically the Canadian branch, and then suddenly that statement turns out not to be correct?

MR. MOHAMMEDI: Your Honor, I can explain that. First of all, you know, they also mentioned that we did not want to admit we had custody and control.

WAMY has 66 chapters around the world. Some of them they were able to work with them, some of them they don't work with them very well. They don't know what is going on, but they try to get as much information from them and ask them please give us the report if we give you the money. If you don't give us the report we don't give you the money. Simple.

But we did not expect this hostile -- WAMY did not expect this hostile approach by WAMY Canada. There was some difficulties with WAMY Canada, yes, and this has nothing do with the CRA report as far as that is concerned, because they were not able to get the information they needed through WAMY USA.

But they did not expect that WAMY Canada would say, we are a separate organization. We are not giving you any information to this. Even though they knew that it might be a separate organization, they thought it would be helpful to WAMY to get this case done and to get all the documents. They did not expect that WAMY Canada would say, no, we are not going to

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do this.

So in good faith actually WAMY said, OK, that is fine. We will try to see whatever documents we have, if there are any more, we will retrieve them, and it just happened we could not retrieve anything.

We went through WAMY USA, which we got that, to WAMY Saudi Arabia, and then the CRA report came, and we said was there any documents that is not, you know, that we don't have, that we need to get for the CRA report. And that's where WAMY Canada said we are not going to produce the documents. We are a separate organization.

THE COURT: OK.

MR. MOHAMMEDI: WAMY acted in good faith trying to get those documents.

THE COURT: Thanks.

MR. MOHAMMEDI: The other thing that I would like to mention is WAMY, they mentioned that they should get those documents from Morian (phonetic) Bank. Simple: We don't have standing to get those statements from the bank, foreign jurisdiction where WAMY has no standing. We cannot even file a challenge to the CRA report, let alone get a statement on behalf of WAMY Canada.

THE COURT: They are separate, as I understand it, corporations, not in a formal parent/subsidiary relationship of that sort, correct?

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MR. MOHAMMEDI: Yes, your Honor. And we have actually the legal opinion for the counsel from WAMY stating that WAMY Canada is established as a separate organization, and we just need to cooperate and work with them. We have that. We

I know that the FOIA request is a moot issue, but really would I like to address some of the, we do believe misrepresentations made by plaintiffs here.

translated that document, and it is in as an exhibit.

They said that in June 2013 we produced documents. However, first they claim that we withheld documents, and we showed them we did not. Afterward they came back and they said we delayed the production of documents.

In June 2013, we produced documents related to FOIA. They were a little bit over 300, I believe, 18 documents. So at that time we have not started making FOIA-to-FOIA requests. We started making the requests at the end of June. Then in January and February we produced FOIA documents, and we produced them according to your order, your Honor. They were 327 pages.

They are saying that we delayed. We didn't delay. We reproduced a few documents that came later on. We reproduced them.

As far as FOIA-to-FOIA requests, as you may know, agencies, governmental agencies they take a long time to give you documents. That is not our delay. It has been six months,

and we have been trying in good faith to gather all those
documents to produce them. Damned you do, damned you don't do.

THE COURT: One thing your letter says is WAMY has committed to reproducing all -- that's where it is underscored -- updated documents received in response to not only FOIA, but FOIA-to-FOIA requests as well. Such documents have and will be produced according to my order.

MR. MOHAMMEDI: Yes.

THE COURT: It seems like all of this is taking a long time. To the extent that you are saying if new documents are generated you will produce those, I understand that. But it sounds like the letter is also saying that there are pre-existing documents which have yet to be produced.

MR. MOHAMMEDI: No, your Honor. Everything we produced in June -- we had we produced. We didn't have any document that we did not produce.

It was after June, your order, that is when we produced afterwards, we produced in January and February FOIA-to-FOIA requests. There were mostly FOIA-to-FOIA requests.

I would like to just mention it. It seems like it's not fair for plaintiff to blame WAMY for delaying the production of FOIA requests where they start communicating with the agency in 2003. If we were delayed in six months, then they were delayed 11 years to produce those documents, until

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yesterday. We produced them before their production, and that's after due diligence, putting them according to your order, and we did produce them. So I don't even know what the issue here is for them to just raise this issue with the delay and WAMY producing the FOIA requests.

There is one last point I would like to mention with respect to FOIA, and I think it was not addressed here. I think we might need to come back to this Court to address the issue with the plaintiffs' production.

In one of the FOIA-to-FOIA productions when we produced to plaintiffs as a matter of fact there were 3,160 pictures relating to 9/11. These were not produced to us.

THE COURT: These were?

MR. MOHAMMEDI: They were not produced to defendants.

We have a letter from the Department of Commerce stating that they communicated with Motley Rice, and they produced 3,160 pages.

Where are those pictures? They claim that there were minor issues in trying to review those documents to produce There was 3,160 pictures. them.

MR. HAEFELE: Your Honor, I could address that pretty quickly. First off, I haven't seen the request of Mr. Mohammedi is talking about. But I suspect, your Honor, that may have been a FOIA request from Motley Rice related to 9/11 aviation litigation before Judge Hellerstein and not for

the 9/11 plaintiffs.

You, your Honor, have already said when we had information related to other plaintiffs in other litigation, it wasn't necessarily relevant to this litigation. I am not sure, I haven't looked at it, but I suspect that may be the explanation.

I can tell you those photographs he is talking about never came up in our search for the FOIA responses relating to this. They weren't buried and not produced because of that.

They just may not have come up.

THE COURT: Why don't you just go back and make sure they are not responsive to requests here from any of the defendants.

MR. HAEFELE: Sure.

MR. CARTER: Your Honor, if I may run through a few issues in response.

THE COURT: Yes.

MR. CARTER: Mr. Mohammedi indicated that when they made their initial FOIA production in June of 2013, it included all FOIA related documents WAMY had in its possession at that time. Following the filing of this motion to compel, WAMY made a FOIA production on January 31 or so, and that included at least 25 documents predating June of 2013 that had not been previously produced.

They include letters to the Treasury Department,

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Department of Justice, FBI, IRS, Department of Justice and again Treasury between September 13, 2011 and April 19, 2013. So this is a relatively significant grouping of FOIA related correspondence which would have been within the scope of your Honor's order.

THE COURT: Let me interrupt you for a second and just say that insofar as FOIA was produced, by way of example on CDs, and because I have already ruled there was no privilege or other protection that pertains those documents, it seems to me that they ought to be produced in the form in which they were received as Rule 34(b)(2)(E) requires, and that that will alleviate some of the problems that you are describing to me now. If that hasn't been done, that should be done.

MR. CARTER: We are in agreement with that, your Honor. I think the point we were trying to make is that for some reason there was a group of documents that preexisted the order, that were subject to the June 24, 2013 deadline that were not produced until we brought this motion.

The concern is that there have been other searches that may not have been as comprehensive as they should have been. This relates again to the issue of the WAMY Canada documents. We have had experiences in this litigation in which some of the foreign defendants have not necessarily fully understood the scope of the searches they are required to undertake, have represented to the Court that they searched and

found and produced everything, and only later acknowledged that there was a broad spectrum of documents that hadn't been turned over.

From what we understand about the reporting obligations, we believe that there should be additional documents relating to WAMY Canada in the Saudi headquarters as well as in the U.S. headquarters. Mr. Mohammedi mentioned that he produced bank statements. We have ten pages of bank statements.

THE COURT: Come June, everybody presumably will have to certify that they have produced all the responsive documents or list them on a privileged log.

If thereafter there is an indication that documents that should have been produced have not been produced, somebody will have a fair amount of explaining to do presumably.

MR. CARTER: That is correct, your Honor. That's why
I think we felt compelled to bring this to the Court's
attention now, so we are not left to bring it up in the first
instance at the close of the production deadline and so that
it's clear to WAMY that it has an obligation to comprehensively
search for these documents.

Just with regard to a few of the other issues,

Mr. Mohammedi mentioned that there is now an authorization in

place from the Canadian branch. The difficulty here is that

WAMY's answer to the problem of one of its own branches going

rogue is to say that the plaintiff should go out of their way to find alternative means to get these documents.

It is our view that WAMY should go out of its way to get these documents from its suddenly rogue organization, and they now have the authorization.

It shouldn't be incumbent upon us in every instance to go and take extra steps because they have an employee who doesn't feel like turning them over. It would be no different than someone taking them out and setting them on fire in a parking lot. That would be spoliation. So it's not clear why we should have to go to these lengths.

In any event, your Honor, it is important from our perspective that agreements reached after lengthy meet and confers are adhered to and people can't simply change the rules of the game for whatever reason after the fact. Again, this was a really critical issue from our perspective with regard to WAMY that we worked a long period of time to overcome.

THE COURT: WAMY takes the position that this is not a contrivance, but this is something that unexpectedly occurred.

I understand that you have concerns, you and your colleagues, in that regard.

But one thing I could do, since Mr. Mohammedi just said several times in letters and in court that WAMY wants these documents as much as you do, and since I guess it may involve retaining Canadian counsel to further that goal, maybe

the two sides should be splitting the cost of getting the CRA documents.

MR. CARTER: Your Honor, we have already undertaken to do the letters rogatory and taken all those steps. Again, this is a problem of their sort of creation.

THE COURT: If you take at face value what

Mr. Mohammedi said, that his clients report to him such that

there was no arrangement whereby at the stage when matters and

facts came to light WAMY Canada decided it would no longer

cooperate, then I am not sure you can lay it at the doorstep of

either WAMY Saudi Arabia or WAMY USA.

MR. CARTER: That certainly would be taking their version of the circumstances at complete face value, your Honor. The timing is a little suspect insofar as we had a meet and confer with Mr. Mohammedi on March 8, 2012 during which we specifically discussed WAMY Canada, and a specific representation was made at that time that they were working with them on that date to get the documents.

Now that's five months or so after the agreement was in place pursuant to which WAMY withdrew its objection about obtaining documents from the branch offices. It was only two weeks later, when we indicated that we were aware of the CRA report, that suddenly Canada became intransigent, your Honor. The other difficulty is this whole period of time before that in which WAMY had an opportunity to collect these documents

under it would just be relieved of its burden entirely for having failed to secure them during that time.

THE COURT: But that I think falls within what I said in an earlier decision about Al-Haramain in terms of not being able to anticipate that things would go sour.

MR. CARTER: As we discussed earlier, your Honor, the difference from our perspective is that Al-Haramain can't do anything to go to the Saudi government and force the Saudi government to turn the documents back over. WAMY has remedies available to it that simply didn't exist in the context of the Al-Haramain dispute.

THE COURT: One of which is attempting to cause WAMY Canada not to be able to use the WAMY name, but I thought I heard Mr. Mohammedi say they are taking steps to try to do that.

Did I hear that correctly, Mr. Mohammedi?
MR. MOHAMMEDI: Yes, your Honor.

MR. CARTER: In the context of taking those steps, it doesn't seem that it would be difficult for WAMY to also file some sort of miscellaneous action to seek to compel production of the documents so that it could protect its interests in this litigation.

THE COURT: I will take that under advisement.

MR. MOHAMMEDI: Your Honor, if I can just address, we have been in communication with Canadian lawyers. We will be

producing a legal opinion from the Canadian lawyers on this issue specifically where the Canadian lawyer said even if WAMY cannot use the WAMY name, it can sue for the name, but it cannot compel them to produce documents that related to WAMY Canada.

We had like various communications with many counsel.

As a matter of fact, to show how WAMY Canada has been very hostile, every lawyer that we contacted in Canada, they say, We have a confidence. What is this confidence? They tell us we have been contacted by WAMY Canada to fight this.

We are trying -- actually, we have communications as we speak now after we filed this response motion showing exactly what we have done so far. We have had communications with the different attorneys, and there is one attorney we are going to have a conversation with next week or so.

Like I said, we want those documents as much as plaintiff wants those documents. Because, like your Honor said, it was an embarrassment that we want to deal with. We want to find out what is happened there.

Also, I would like to address the issue with the CRA report. They keep claiming, plaintiffs keep claiming that CRA did not even claim that they say, the plaintiffs said WAMY deliberately financed terrorist organizations that were based in Canada. That's not what CRA said. CRA revoked the charitable status of WAMY Canada for the not reporting

properly. And related to the issues of WAMY were actually all those claims that they had them in the CRA report were recycled from blogs, from the plaintiffs' claims, and they put them in there without any basis. That's what we are trying to get to the bottom of. But we don't have standing for challenging that because WAMY could not file the appeal on that report.

MR. GOETZ: Your Honor, may I just add one thing that strikes me, your Honor, is what practically the plaintiffs would have WAMY do here. The solution I think the Court seems to be thinking about is to have WAMY retain Canadian counsel to pursue some sort of action.

Now, I think we have to define our targets here. You have WAMY Canada, which may or may not have any documents, we don't know. Then we have WAMY or we have the Canadian Revenue Agency. The Canadian Revenue Agency should be more straightforward.

We have the authorization. It is a government agency. Whatever they have I think we can get. We will join plaintiffs in cooperating with that. But my concern is that the plaintiffs are basically trying to set WAMY up for an impossible task to come back to seek sanctions.

If we cannot get those WAMY Canada documents because they are not going to turn them over, and that's a fact that hasn't changed, despite our representations, when we had that meet and confer, we were laying things out as we understood

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things at that time and we had a plan. The plan is to reach out to WAMY Canada, and that's what we said, just like any other of the branches.

But when the boots hit the ground so to speak and we were trying to get the WAMY Canada documents, that's when they became recalcitrant and intransigent.

A couple other points, your Honor. I think the concern is that when the Court crafts an order for any kind of relief, do not set WAMY up for an impossible task, because we cannot get those WAMY Canada documents, and we don't know what the outcome of any litigation is going to be.

We are happy to engage counsel and pursue whatever remedies might be available. If they are as easy as plaintiffs think they might be, well, then it should be no problem. But we cannot guarantee any outcome.

The other point, your Honor, just because a record is being made here, the plaintiffs in their briefs say that -- and I think they deliberately mislead the Court about WAMY, deliberately misleading the Court about the relationship between WAMY and BIF to the extent that Secretary-General Wohaibi's credibility has been called into question, I just want to state clearly -- this is footnote 6 of their reply brief as well -- that from our perspective the facts are crystal clear, that there is not and has never been any relationship between WAMY and BIF.

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The other also, I think, deliberate misleading of the Court by plaintiffs is in footnote 4 of the reply brief. We have given plaintiffs documents that show there have been problems between WAMY and WAMY Canada. The problems have been one of basically they don't have their act together, not that they have been outwardly hostile. That's the fact that has changed. Even the CRA report, your Honor, in its findings notes multiple deficiencies of WAMY Canada maintaining books and records in 2001 and 2002.

THE COURT: Thank you.

We do not have a date for a further conference. Should we hold one? I am many not clear whether Judge Daniels has scheduled another conference.

MR. CARTER: There is a conference before Judge

Daniels in April, your Honor. Off the top of my head I can't remember.

MS. BERGOFFEN: It's the 24th.

THE COURT: Let me see whether that is on my calendar. Yes, it is.

MS. BERGOFFEN: I think from the defense side, your Honor, we believe that we can schedule a placeholder conference on the same date as the Judge Daniels conference for now.

MR. CARTER: I think, your Honor, we are likely to have some other motions teed up well before that time. But, if your Honor would prefer to just do it all on one date in April.

E2jntera Conference THE COURT: Why don't we do that. He's holding his conference at 11. I will set aside time immediately after that. Perhaps, depending on how long you go with him, maybe it will be after lunch. But we will do it the same day. MR. CARTER: Thank you, your Honor. THE COURT: OK. Thank you. (Adjourned)